Department of the Interior National Park Service 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20242 202 ● 619 ● 7400 phone 202 ● 619 ● 7302 fax

Office of Communication Fact Sheet

For Immediate Release
Bill Line/Toni Braxton 202-619-7400

Greater Washington National Parks Did you know ...

- On average, there are between 40 and 45 million visitors who enjoy the 15 Greater Washington National Parks annually.
- There are over 88,000 acres of parkland contained within the 15 Greater Washington National Parks.
- There are 717 miles of trails which provide venues for outdoor recreation such as walking, hiking, biking, jogging or in-line skating.
- There are 250 miles of riverfront that afford visitors the opportunity to fish, kayak and sail.
- There are 43,000 acres of forested land that provide opportunities for tent or cabin camping.
- There are three NPS-operated golf courses in the District of Columbia, the Rock Creek, the Langston and the East Potomac Park golf courses.
- There are two indoor tennis facilities, one located in Rock Creek Park, the other in East Potomac Park.
- There is one President's Park, which includes the White House, the Ellipse, Lafayette Square and the White House Visitor Center.
- There are 169 statues available to discover.
- There are 1,500 employees in the National Capital Region.
- There are over 22,000 Volunteers-in-the-Parks who donate over 335,000 hours

Page 2

Annually in a variety of different functions:

- There are 18 Civil War forts, four Civil War Battlefields and more than 3,000 historic structures that provide sites to relive and learn about major battles in a war that divided the nation.
- There are special events and concert choices at world famous venues such as Ford's Theatre, Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, and the National Mall.
- There are two national parks Catoctin Mountain Park and Prince William Forest Park—that provide excellent locations for winter cross-country skiing and hiking as well as non-winter biking on trails and roadways.
- Catoctin Mountain Park provides two mountain streams for excellent spring and early summer trout fishing.
- Rock Creek Park, located entirely within the District of Columbia, provides respite and refuge within the city from a hectic, busy life. It offers venues for hiking, biking, roller-blading, bird watching, horseback riding and has the National Park Service's only planetarium. Rock Creek Park is more than twice the size of New York City's Central Park. Rock Creek Park was established as this nation's third National Park, being added to the National Park system after the installation of Yellowstone and Yosemite National Parks.
- There are major annual attractions that include the National Cherry Blossom Festival each spring, the July 4th or Independence Day celebration, which includes a nationally televised concert on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol and which features world-class fireworks, and the Lighting of the National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse.
- The C&O Canal National Historical Park is among the top 20 most-visited national parks.
- There are over 90 Park Friends groups. Some include the National Cherry Blossom Festival, Inc., the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Friends of the Potomac, National Parks Mid-Atlantic Council, Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority, Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Downtown Business Improvement District, the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, and others.
- There are over 20 park-specific fundraising partners. Some include the White House Historical Association, the Wolf Trap Foundation, the Civil War Preservation Trust, Save Historic Antietam Foundation, the Accokeek Foundation, the Trust for the National Mall, Fords Theatre Society, C & O

Canal Community Development Fund, and the Georgetown Waterfront Fund, among others.

- There are talented Cooperating Associations, including Eastern National and the Western Maryland Interpretive Association.
- There are two Tree Endowment Funds, the Cherry Tree Replacement Fund and the National Capital Region (NCR) Tree & Shrub Replacement Fund.

-NPS-